



AND APPEAL BOARD

EXAMINER: RICHARD A. SMITH

GROUP ART UNIT NO. 2859

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Sir:

The applicants hereby appeal the decision of the Examiner in finally rejecting all of Claims 1-18 and 20-34 as set forth in the Office Action dated October 20, 2004. The Examiner has erred both in fact and in law in setting forth the following rejections:

1. The Examiner erred in objecting to the claims for alleged informalities. The Examiner rejected the claims on the basis of the Castle et al. patent, taken alone and in combination with secondary references of record.

2. The Examiner has rejected the claims as being unpatentable over the Hensler et al. patent in view of the Chien patent, the Gehweiler et al. patent, and the Sanders patent.

3. The Examiner has further erred in rejecting the claims on the basis of the Phillips patent and other references of record.

4. The Examiner has erred in not giving full weight to the arguments presented by the applicants.

The applicants hereby respectfully request an oral hearing in connection with this appeal.

Dated: April 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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